Postmasters are requested to act as agents

ican.
The History of Mason and Dixon's Line, con tained in an Address delivered by John H. B. Latrobe, of Maryland, before the Historical So-ciety of Pennsylvania, November 8, 1854. Mirana Elliot, or the Voice of the Spirit, by S.

Autobiography of Charles Caldwell, M. D., with a Preface, Notes, and Appendix, by Harriet W.

Warner.
Just received and for sale by
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HARPER'S MAGAZINE for September is a magnificent number, filled with superior engravings, and for sale at Shillington's book-The great Illustrated Magazine of Art for Sep

tember is one of the best that has been issued.

Leslie's Ladies' Gazette for September contains all the new Fall fashions.

The Knickerbocker Magazine for September.
Godey's Lady's Book, Graham's Magazine, and
Putnam's Magazine, all for September, received

and for sale at SHILLINGTON'S Bookstore, THE FAILURE of Free Society.-Soci ology for the South, or the Failure of Free Society, by George Fitzhugh. On sale at TAYLOR & MAURY'S

W ATER-COLOR PICTURES.—
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WASHINGTON SENTINEL.

VOL. 3.

TRI-WEEKLY.

NO. 44.

CITY OF WASHINGTON, TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 8, 1856.

WOOD GAS, CAUTION. BE it known that I, the subscriber ob-tained letters patent in December, 1851, for an apparatus for the destructive distillation of wood, and the making therefrom of tar or pitch at pleasure, and gas; and that in the judgment of competent persons the invention of an appartus recently patented by W. D. Porter cannot be used by him or any other person without infring-ing my said patent. And, further, that what is patented by said Porter rightfully belongs to me, as I expect to prove ere long before the United States Patent Office; and, further, that the use of said Porter's invention involves also a process which I am now claiming before the United States Patent Office, and which has been adjudged to be patentable to the first inventor thereof, and which said W. D. Porter has formally disclaimed, as ap-

pears upon the public records of said office, of which an official copy is hereto annexed, and also which an official copy is hereto annexed, and also a copy of his claims.

In the National Intelligencer of the 25th instant Mr. Porter announces that he has secured by patent the "exclusive right to making gas from wood," and threatens presecution to all parties infringing his patent. I ask how this statement comports with the fact of my patent of December, 1851, and how far the threat can intimidate under such circumstances? Mr. Porter's claim is based upon a moyable perforated disphragm, and was such circumstances? Mr. Porter's claim is based upon a movable perforated diaphragm, and was so understood by the Patent Office, as it appears from the records of the Patent Office that his claim was at first refused as interfering with a prior patent to Robert Foulis, of Canada, for an equivalent contrivance. This claim, as given below, and in which the perforated diaphragm is the saving clause, is what Mr. Porter calls securing the "exclusive right to making gas from wood." The statement carries absurdity on its front, and The statement carries absurdity on its front, and is a libel on the good sense of the Patent Office If such a claim or right had been granted, it would forbid every coal-kiln and charcoal manufactory

in the country.

The following copies of correspondence and extracts from the records of the Patent Office will show the true state of the case:

United States Patent Office,
August 25, 1854.
Sir. In reply to your letter of this date, asking
"if any patent has been granted to W. D. Porter,
dated 22d August, 1854, or at any other time, or dated 22d August, 1854, or at any other time, or to any other person or persons, securing to him or them "the exclusive right of making gas from wood," and whether any such claim was made by W. D. Porter, under his application for a patient, which letters patent were issued bearing the above date, you are informed that W. D. Porter's claims are believed to be c nfined to his apparatus; and, further, this office is not aware that a patient has been granted heretofore for the exclusion. patent has been granted heretofore for the exclusive right of making gas from word. It would, however, be unjustifiable to expect me to make an extended investigation to answer your re-

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant, C. Mason, Commissioner of Patents. W. P. McConaell, Esq., Care of Prof. C. G. Page, Washington, D. C.

The United States Patent Office—To all persons to whom these presents shall come, greting: This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy rom the files of this office of an extract from paper filed in the matter of the application of W.
D. Porter for letters patent, in accordance with which application letters patent were issued to the said W. D. Porter on the 22d day of August,

said W. D. Porter on the 22d day of August, eighteen hundred and fifty-four. In testimony whereof, I. Charles Mason, Com-missioner of Patents, have caused the seal of the Patent Office to be hereunto affixed [1. s.] this 25th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fiftyfour, and of the independence of the United States the seventy-ninth. C. Mason.

Copy of disclaimer of W. D. Porter in his applica tion for "an improved still for making wood gas," filed August 5, 1854. Letters patent issued August 22, 1854.

the improvements in making gas from wood, viz: subjecting the products of destructive distillation therefrom to a high degree of heat, substantially as has been described and for the purposes set forth in the specification of W. P. McConnell."

The United States Patent Office-To all persons whom these presents shall come greeting: This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy from the records of this office of an extract from the specification of W. D. Porter's patent, issued in the twenty second day of August, eighteen hundred and fifty-four.

In testimony whereof, I, Charles Mason, Com

missioner of Patents, have caused the seal of the Patent Office to be hereunto affixed this twenty-fifth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and of the independence of the United States the seventy-ninth.

Extract from Specification of W. D. Perter on which letters patent were issued August 22, 1864.
Claim.—What I claim as my invention and de "The construction of a gas apparatus or still,

consisting of a metallic or other cylinder B, the cones E and D, diaphram plate C, and exit pipe F, substantially as described in the foregoing specification, and shown in the accompanying draw

the records of the Patent Office, to which all have WM. P. McCONNELL

By his attorney CHAS. G. PAGE. MORNING GOWNS.—A large and fin-assortment, at all prices, for sale by WALL & STEPHENS,

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MATHEMATICAL DICTIONARY and Cyclopedia of Mathematical Science, com-prising definitions of all the terms employed in Mathematics, an analysis of each branch, and of the whole as forming a single science, by Charles Davies, L. L. D., author of a complete course of Mathematics, and Wm. G. Peck, A. M., Assistant Professor of Mathematics United States Mili-ary Academy. Just published, and for sale at he Bookstore of R. FARNHAM,

O TONE QUARRY.—I am prepared to furnish from my quarry, opposite the Little Falls and adjoining the quarry of the late Timothy O'Neale, any quantity of stone that may be needed for building purposes. Apply to the undersigned at his house on H, between 19th and 20th streets First ward, or to Mr. Paine, at the quarry villiam B. SCOTT.

COMMENTARIES on the Jurisdiction
Practice, and Peculiar Jurisprudence of the
Courts of the United States, vol. 1, by George
Ticknor Curtis.
History of the Crusades, their Rise, Progress,

and Results, by Major Proctor, of the Roya Cumming's Lectures on the Seven Churches.

TAYLOR & MAURY'S Bookstore,

- PROSPECTUS

WASHINGTON SENTINEL." I PROPOSE to publish in the city of Washington, in September, a political newspaper, under the name of the WASHINGTON SENTINEL.

In doing so, it is proper 1 should make known the principles it will maintain, and the policy it will advocate. will advocate.

It will support cordially and earnestly the principles of the Democratic party of the United States it does not propose to be the organ of any Depart ment of the Government, except in so far as an independent maintenance of the doctrines of that party may represent its opinions and express its views.

It will not be ambitious to commend itself to the people by a blind flattery of their rulers. It will seek public support by the bold avowal of the sentiments which are common to the genuine Democracy of the Union, and by the condemnabemocracy of the Union, and by the condemna-tion of all such as may comflict with them, from whatever quarter they may come. It will seek to be (and it will endeavor to deserve the title) the organ of the Democratic party of the United States.

The SENTINEL will maintain, as a fundamenta The SENTINEL will maintain, as a fundamental truth of that great party, that the States formed the Union between them by the ratification of the Constitution as a compact; by which, also, they created the Federal Government, and delegated to it, as their common agent, the powers expressly specified in it, with an explicit reservation of all others to the States, or to their separate govern-ments. The exercise of any powers beyond these thus delegated, is, therefore, an usurpation of the reserved authority of the States by the agent or

their own creation.

The SENTINEL will uphold and defend the Union upon the basis of the rights of the States—under the Constitution—and thus by sedulously guarding the latter, it will the more effectually strengthen and perpetuate the former.

With regard to the exercise of the powers of the Federal Government, the SENTINEL will take as the principles of its action, that Congress shall ex-ercis no power which has not been delegated by the Constitution, according to a strict and fair in-terpret tion of its language and spirit; and that it shall no seek to attain indirectly an object through the exer ise of constitutional power, for the direct attainment of which it has no delegation of power In other words, all powers exercised must be clearly gra ted, and all granted powers must be used for no vurpose, except such as is clearly intended by the Constitution.

In respect to the internal administration of the Government, the SENTINEL will sustain the settled policy of the Democratic party. It will labor to neulcate this cardinal doctrine of Democratic in ternal policy:—that this Government will best promote the freedom and prosperity of the people of the States, by being less ambitious to exercise power, and more anxious to preserve liberty; and by leaving to the individual States the manage-ment of all their domestic concerns—while it con-tents itself with guarding the confederacy from external violence, and directing the foreign policy of the country to the promotion of the common interests, and defence of the common rights, and

honor of the States composing it. The Sentinel will advocate such a progressive foreign policy as will suit itself to the exigencies, and correspond with the expanding interests of the country. That policy should be energetic and decided; but should temper firmness with liberality, and make its highest ends consist with the strictest principles of justice. The real interests of the country, upon each occasion demanding attention will be its guide in the course the SENTING, will will be its guide in the course the SENTINEL wil

The national policy of the world in this age is essentially aggressive. In the growing sense of weakness of some of the nations of the Old World, non motive to colonial extension has developed self. and the ambitious restlessness of others, a com

Our settled determination to repel interference from abroad with our domestic concerns, wil rompt us to avoid it in the affairs of other coun ries, unless by their foreign or colonial policy ou peace should be threatened, our security endan ered, or our interests invaded. For when the elfish interests of other nations prompt a foreign and places in the pathway of our commerce a be resisted by remonstrance, and, if need be, by

Our foreign policy should, indeed, be defensive but to be properly defensive, it must sometimes be apparently aggressive. Our administration should be vigilant, watchful, and energetic. The world s full of important movements, commercial and political, deeply concerning American trade and American power. It is time we had an American foreign policy. We must have it. We cannot avoid it if we would. We have larger interests, and a greater stake in the world and its destiny, than every other people. We occupy the best portion of a continent, with no neighbors but a colony, and a worn-out, anarchical despotism. We are the oluy people whose own land, without colonial descriptions. fendencies, is washed by the two great oceans of the world. Our agricultural productions are more varied and more essential to civilized life, and to tuman progress-our mineral and manufacturing resources more vast—our facilities and capacity for internal and foreign commerce more extended than those of any other people living under one government. A continent, to a great extent, unexplored and exhaustless in its yet hidden wealth is at our feet. European trade seeks the great East ough avenues which are at our doors, or must be made through our own limits. Europe, Asia, Africa, and the isles of the sea, lying all around us, look to us as the rising power, through the agency of whose example, and ever widening and extending, though peaceful influences, the bless agency of whose example, and ever whening and extending, though peaceful influences, the bless ings of liberty, civilization, and religion, are des-tined to triumph over the barbarism and supersti-tion of the millions of the world. And shall such a people refuse to lay hold upon their destiny, and act upon the high mission to which it is called? A mission so full of hope, though so laden with responsibility, which, if properly directed, must make our confederacy the harbinger of peace to

The SENTINEL will, therefore, advocate a bold and earnest foreign policy, such as the condition of the country demands; but it will advocate it under the flag of the country—nowhere else. Its foreign policy must be consistent with the spotless honor and unimpeachable good faith of the country. To be respectable at home and abroad, and to be great eyes of the world, it must ask for nothing but what is right, and submit to nothing that wrong. It must be liberal and magnanimous the rights of others, and firm and immoveable it insisting on its own. It must, in fine, be true to its own interests, rights, and honor—it cannot ther

be false to those of other nations. Such, then, is the chart by which we shall b guided. Independent and free, we shall endeavor to be honest and truthful. The true friends of democratic principles we shall cordially support and defend. Its enemies in the field or in ambush we shall oppose, and on all proper occasions de

To our future brethren of the press we extend the hand of friendly greeting. The Sentinel is the rival of no press of its own party—the personal

The present Democratic Administration has ou est wishes for its success in the establishment of the great principles upon which it came into power, and in its honest labors to attain such an end it will find the SENTINEL its friend and coadjutor.

ATER YEARS, by the Author of "the Mr. Rutherford's Children, second volume. Pebbles from the Lake Shore, or Miscellane

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SATIRE AND SATIRISTS, BY JAMES Hannay, author of Singleton Fontleroy, &c. Cosas de Espana, or Going to Madrid, via Bar-Just published and for sale at
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March 6 Bookstore, near 9th street. FOR RENT, till the 15th of November next, the large built house at the corner of 18th and K streets. Call at the "Sentinel" office. Intelligencer, Star, and Organ, one week daily and send bills to Sentinel office.

May 17-1wd

T) ROSPECTUS.—SOUTHERN CONSERvative Magazine.—When new aspirants for popular favor are announced, the public have a right to demand the grounds upon which such show of title to their patronage is made. In acknowledgment of this, we trace the customs of parties in the avowal of principles; of religious sects, in the promulgation of creeds; and of per-sons in all pursuits of life, dependent upon the public for success, in their preparatory expositions of plans and purposes. The customs thus originating, though sometimes abused, are useful and proper, and should not be discarded. And when, in obedience to custom, new plans are proposed, those approving ought not to withhold their ensecure it. Such a foolish policy as this jeopar dizes the plan they approve, and hastens its failure it has defeated many important enterprizes, and has deprived the country of good and useful works If a new proposition of any kind is approved by he public, the support of those approving is right expected, their approval being solicited only in the view that their more substantial aid wil

BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE PLAN OF THE PROPOSED PERIODICAL. THE SOUTHERN CONSERVATIVE MAGAZINE WIL ccupy grounds but little cultivated by American magazinists. It is believed that a field is open for a periodical of a new and, in some respects, a higher order than has been aimed at in our maga zine literature. In this belief, and with such as aim, we announce the Southern Conservative

The new magazine will be national and no sectional; claiming no merit by virtue of its es-tablishment in the South, but aiming at a higher usefulness and a more general acceptability. It will be Protestant, but not sectarian; opposing religious bigotry or intollerance on the one side, and infidelity on the other—laboring in its teach branches of the great family of the church.

It will be political, but liberal; owing no slavish allegiance to parties or politicians, it will advocate measures, not men, and will labor only for the success of principles. It will be progressive, yet sternly opposed to the reckless spirit of innovation so rife in the country-aiming to elevate and advance, not de-press; to reform and improve, not to destroy

sacredly adhering to the true intent of our great republican theory, and laboring to advance it t its fullest development. It will be truly American in tone and sentiment but will repudiate nothing foreign, merely because so; believing that the good, the useful, and true belong not, par excellence, to any favored people, but are the common right of all.

It will be the organ of pure conservatism. It will encourage a high-toned literature, and defend pure morals in all the social relations of

And it will number in its corps of regular con-tributors some of the ablest political and literary writers of the country.

The magazine will be printed on the fines

quality of paper, with new type, and in a plain but superior style. Each number will contain not less than 50 large octavo pages, made up of original articles, con-tributed and editorial—reviews, political and cientific essays, romances, poetry, &c. We promise much for the new magazine, and we intend to perform it all, and more, if the reading public will give the enterprise a liberal en-

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. The Southern Conservative Magazine will be issued, the first of each month, from the office of publication. Nashville or Knoxville, Tennessee. and will be furnished to suscribers at four dollars a year, or three dollars if paid punctually in advance. Publication will be commenced the 1st day of January, 1856. Address orders to the W. T. HELMS,

Knoxville, Tennessee. LEAVES from a Family Journal, from the French of Emilie Souvestre, author of The Attic Philosopher in Paris.

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Corner 11th st. and Penn. av. MRS. JAMESON'S NEW BOOK. - A common-place book of Thoughts, Memo common-place book of Thoughts, Memories and Fancies, original and selected, by Mrs Jameson. Price 75 cents.

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Dec 16-3tawif VALUABLE REAL ESTATE FOR Sale.—The block of buildings known as the Union Buildings," and now occupied by the Union newspaper establishment. They are situated on E street, between 13th and 14th streets, and fronting directly on Pennsylvania avenue. The lot is 70 feet front by 159 feet deep. The property is susceptible of division and re-arrangement, and its position such as must rank it among the best business stands on the avenue, and is yearly in-creasing in value. The time of the present lessee expires on the 1st September next, on which day

possession may had.

Also, that large three-story Brick House on 17th street west, (opposite the War Office, and three doors south of G street.)

Also, that three-story House on 17th street west, next door to the Government Building, at the

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Should the above property not be sold at private sale prior to the 15th of May, it will be sold on that day at public auction.

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Apply to CH. H. WINDER,

Corner of 17th and G streets. March 20-2awt15May NEW LIVERY STABLE.

To the Patrons of Berkeley Springs. THE undersigned begs leave to inform his friends and the public generally, that he has rected a new and extensive Livery Stable, for the accommodation of those who may wish to keep their horses at the Springs during the ap-proaching season. The building contains about 40 stalls of extra width, and extensive Carriage 40 stalls of extra width, and extensive Carriage Sheds. Its location is clean, dry, and airy, and convenient to Colonel Strother's Hotel, with which it is connected by arrangement. Experienced and reliable persons will be in attendance, and no expense will be spared to give every satisfaction to the visiting public. The proprietor will also keep for hire, several pleasure carriages and saddle horses. Having provided these ac commodations, at considerable expense, the Proprietor hopes that he will be liberally patronized Terms to suit the times.

Terms to suit the times.

JAMES A. STORM. Berkeley Springs, Morgan County, Va., July 1, 1855. July 18—tf.

PROSPECTUS

UNITED STATES TIMES, A Weekly Newspaper to be published in Washington City.

The undersigned, expecting soon to retire from the position he has for some time held as Superintendent of the United States Census, intends to devote himself to the control and management of the REVIEW, of which, for the last nine years, he has been the editor and proprietor, and to the publication in the City of Washington of a weekly newspaper with the above title.

The material for this paper will consist, in part of selections or extracts from articles admitted into the REVIEW, but mainly of other original literary, educational, industrial, and miscellaneous natters, including digests of the current events of the day, home and foreign; the proceedings of Congress and the acts of the Government; literary and scientific sketches and essays upon leading and popular topics; biographical sketches men: digest of off Federal; the state of the markets in the several arge cities; the progress and prospects of crops; supply, demand, prices, etc.; the increase of the country as shown by statistics, bringing down hose of the National Census always to date The object will be, through careful editoria

management and a large and well-selected correspondence, to establish at the seat of govern ment a Family Newspaper which shall be adapted to the wants of every community; imparting musement and information, and political, only to the extent of maintaining the institutions of the country and defending the rights and sovereignt of the States. The City of Washington, from the advantage which it presents for obtaining material of every

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